

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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SUBJ: PEKING AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

REF: HONG KONG A-209, JULY 28, 1971

SUMMARY: PEKING'S PUBLICATION OF GREETINGS FROM ABROAD ON THE 10TH PARTY CONGRESS AND THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL DAY TREATMENT OF FOREIGN PARTIES ONCE AGAIN PROVIDES A LIMITED OVERVIEW OF THE CURRENT STATE OF PEKING'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT. THE PICTURE IS CLEARLY NOT A BRIGHT ONE FROM THE CHINESE VIEWPOINT AND THEIR LACK OF EMPHASIS ON THE MOVEMENT'S ROLE IN WORLD POLITICS REFLECTS THE MINIMAL IMPORTANCE THE CHINESE

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CURRENTLY ATTACH TO IT. THE PRO-PEKING "MARXIST-LENINIST" MOVEMENT IS MERELY A SHADOW OF ITS FORMER SELF IN THE HEYDAY OF THE MID-SIXTIES AND IF ANYTHING, IS WEAKER NOW THAN ON THE LAST MAJOR OCCASION CALLING

FOR AN OUTPOURING OF INTERNATIONAL GREETINGS, THE CCP'S

50TH ANNIVERSARY IN JULY 1971. END SUMMARY

1. COMING TOWARD THE END OF HIS AUG 24 REPORT TO THE 10TH PARTY CONGRESS, CHOU EN-LAI'S CALL FOR CHINA TO "UNITE WITH ALL GENUINE MARXIST-LENINIST PARTIES AND ORGANIZATIONS THE WORLD OVER" APPEARS ALMOST AS AN AFTERTHOUGHT. THIS TREATMENT SYMBOLICALLY DEMONSTRATES THE LOW PRIORITY THAT CHINA CURRENTLY PLACES ON THE PRO-PEKING INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT. THE DAYS WHEN PEKING APPEARED WILLING TO SUPPORT VIRTUALLY ANY GROUP THAT WOULD DECLARE ITSELF IN FAVOR OF THE MAOIST VIEW OF THE WORLD ARE GONE. THE CURRENT EMPHASIS IN CHINESE DOCTRINAL STATEMENTS IS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF POWER RELATIONSHIPS IN THE WORLD AND SPECIFICALLY ON THE THIRD WORLD STRUGGLE AGAINST SUPERPOWER HEGEMONY.

2. THE PUBLICATION OF GREETINGS FROM FOREIGN PARTIES AND GROUPS ON THE OCCASION OF THE 10TH PARTY CONGRESS AND THE TREATMENT OF FRATERNAL PARTIES AT NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS PROVIDES A LIMITED OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW THE STATE OF CHINA'S RELATIONS WITH THE MOVEMENT. AT PRESENT THE CHINESE MAINTAIN PARTY TIES (AS DISTINCT FROM GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS) WITH ONLY FOUR OTHER COMMUNIST-CONTROLLED COUNTRIES--NORTH KOREA, NORTH VIETNAM, ALBANIA, AND ROMANIA, RANKED IN THAT ORDER BY CHINA. PEKING CONTINUES TO PUBLISH GREETINGS FROM THE MAVERICK POLISH COMMUNIST PARTY BASED IN ALBANIA, THE ONLY RUMP FACTION SUPPORTED AGAINST A RULING COMMUNIST PARTY.

3. IN NON-COMMUNIST ASIA, THE CHINESE PUBLISHED GREETINGS FROM THE COMMUNIST PARTIES OF BURMA, MALAYA, THAILAND AND INDONESIA AS THEY HAVE INPAST YEARS DESPITE ATTTEMPTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS THE THE GOVERNMENTS OF THESE COUNTRIES. LEADERS OF THE BURMESE AND INDONESIAN PARTIES LIVING IN PEKING WERE AGAIN TREATED TO A NATIONAL DAY BANQUET BY HIGH-RANKING LEADERS OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY, CONFIDENTIAL

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BUT AS WAS THE CASE IN THE LAST TWO YEARS, THEY WERE SEPARATED FROM RECEPTIONS GIVEN BY GOVERNMENT LEADERS. NATIONAL DAY GREETINS WERE ALSO PUBLISHED FROM THE "VOICE OF THE MALAYAN REVOLUTION" AND THE "VOICE OF THE PEOPLE OF THAILAND" EVEN THOUGH THAI AND MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT LEADERSHAVE REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED TO THE PRC THEIR SENSITIVITY TO THESE RADIO FACILITIES. THERE WAS NO MESSAGE THIS YEAR FROM THEPHILIPPINE COMMUNIST PARTY. NCNA DID PUBLISH THE USUAL GREETINGS FROM THE PRO-PEKING SPLINTER PARTY IN JAPAN. THIS SUGGESTS THAT THE REPORTED CHINESE FEELERS TO THE JAPANESE PARTY EARLIER THIS YEAR HAVE NOT BORNE FRUIT.

4. INTERESTINGLY, THE NEW ZEALAND COMMUNIST PARTY HAS HAD A

PRECIPITOUS DROP IN POPULARITY WITH THE CHINESE. FOR MANY YEARS, THE LEADER OF THIS LINE PARTY, V.G. WILCOX HAS BEEN GIVEN TOP BILLING BY THE CHINESE. IN REPORTING MESSAGES ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY IN JULY 1971, THE GREETINGS FROM THE NEW ZEALAND PARTY HEADED THE LIST. AS LATE AS THIS SPRING, WILCOX RECEIVED WARM TREATMENT ON A VISIT TO PEKING THAT COINCIDED WITH THE VISIT OF NEW ZEALAND FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER WALDING. NCNA NOTED IN SEPARATE ITEMS THAT CHOU HAD HELD TALKS WITH BOTH OF THEM. BY THE FALL, HOWEVER, THE CHINESE MERELY ACKNOWLEDGED A LATE MESSAGE OF GREETING FROM THE NEW ZEALAND COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE. WILCOX CURIOUSLY WAS NOT MENTIONED. ALTHOUGH WILCOX MAY HAVELOST HIS CLOSE TIES WITH PEKING, THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF AUSTRALIA (MARXIST-LENINIST) LED BY E.F. HILL APPARENTLY REMAINS IN GOOD GRACES.

5. IN WESTERN EUROPE, THE CHINESE FOLLOWED RECENT PRACTICE IN CARRYING MESSAGES FROM A WIDE VARIETY OF GROUPS, OFTEN INCLUDING COMPETING MARXIST-LENINIST ORGANIZATIONS IN THE SAME COUNTRY. THEY HAVE, FOR THE MOST PART, ESCHEWED ANY CLTSE ASSOCIATION WITH THESE GROUPS ALL OF WHICH ARE SMALL SPLINTER GROUPS WITH MINIMAL INFLUENCE. THERE WERE NO GREETINGS FROM MAJOR WEST EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES, INCLUDING THE SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY WHICH HAD IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH THE CHINESE IN 1971-72.
A MARXIST-LENINIST PARTY FROM PORTUGAL HAS BEEN ADDED FOR THE FIRST TIME. THERE WERE NO COMMUNIST PARTY GREETINGS FROM AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST, OR SOUTH ASIA EXCEPT FOR SRI LANKA.
IN LATIN AMERICA, THE NUMBER OF MESSAGES PUBLICIZED FROM FRA-
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TERNAL PARTIES DECREASED CONSIDERABLY, WITH ONLY SPLINTER GROUPS FROM HONDURAS, VENEZUELA, AND BOLIVIA REPRESENTED.

6. THIS PRESENT DOLOROUS STATE OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE REST OF THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT REFLECT SOME BASIC CHINESE POLICY DECISIONS. THE ATTEMPT IN THE 1960'S TO UNDERMINE RULING COMMUNIST PARTIES AND THE MAJOR PARTIES IN WESTERN EUROPE AND JAPAN OR SPLIT OFF LARGE Factions FROM THEM HAS BEENWRITTEN OFF AS A FAILURE. THE CHINESE MAY NOW BE WILLING TO ACCOMMODATE THEMSELVES TO AT LEAST MINIMAL RELATIONS WITH CERTAIN OF THESE PARTIES IF THEY DO NOT FOLLOW THE SOVIET ANTI-CHINESE LINE. IN THE THIRD WORLD, ATTEMPTS TO ESTABLISH PARTY RELATIONS USUALLY INVOLVED THE CHINESE IN SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. THE STRONG REACTION THIS EVOKED FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENTS APPARENTLY CONVINCED THE CHINESE THAT THE RISK WAS TOO GREAT AND THE RETURN TOO SMALL. VERY LITTLE MONEY IS CURRENTLY BEING HANDED OUT TO AFRICAN AND LATIN-AMERICEN SELF-PROCLAIMED MAOIST GROUPS, A SITUATION EXPLAINED BY EMPHASIZING THE IMPORT-ANCE OF "SELF-RELIANCE."
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